

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

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Volume 41 | Number 3

Article 2

1961

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Recommended Citation

Dodds, Jan (1961) "Delegate Heeds Warning To "Bring Shopping Bags"," *The Iowa Homemaker*: Vol. 41 : No. 3 , Article 2.

Available at: <http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/homemaker/vol41/iss3/2>

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Delegate Heeds Warning To "Bring Shopping Bags"

AHEA National Convention
Cleveland, Ohio
Monday, June 26

Dear Diary,

What a day! I met Lois Marra and Jan Waselkov in Chicago, and we boarded the 10:30 a.m. train for Cleveland. The train took such a long time to pull out of the station that we thought we'd have to push it. I noticed a girl in front of me get on with a hat box, coat, various packages, and a large suitcase. I knew she must be going to the American Home Economics Association Convention, too; so I introduced myself and found she was from Texas. When I thought of all the other girls I'd meet in Cleveland, the train couldn't go fast enough.

We arrived at our hotel at 6:30 p.m., registered, and hurried to the College Club Mixer. We really had a super time! I met girls from all over — Sue, a gracious, charming southern girl from Mississippi; Vicky, an interesting girl from Michigan; Gloria, a cute cut-up from California — but all had one common trait — enthusiasm for home economics.

I wonder what the old-timers mean when they keep saying, "Get your shopping bags ready."

Tuesday, June 27

Dear Diary,

My feet are killing me, and those two heavy shopping bags practically cut my fingers off.

I could hardly believe my eyes when I saw the rows and rows of exhibits in the auditorium. I

By
Jan Dodds
Pres. of Home Economics Council

started down the nearest aisle, and in no time one bag was full of samples, advertising material, educational literature, recipes — you name it — I had it!

We saw everything from patty shells to a space kitchen. One company had constructed a fall-out shelter equipped to house two adults and one child for one week.

At 10:00 a.m., I attended the general session of the AHEA. For the first time I realized that I, as a college club member, played a real part in this large, professional organization. Here I had the opportunity to exchange ideas with women from every area of Home Economics.

Tonight was really exciting! As I walked into the large reception room where the "first-timers" were being greeted, who should be in the receiving line of AHEA officers but Dean LeBaron! I discovered that she is first vice-president of the AHEA; but more than that, tonight she was a familiar face.

Later I went to the room where the ISU people met to greet old friends, and I saw more of our faculty members.

I was really impressed by the immediate recognition people gave to Iowa State. They knew I was from one of the best Home Economics schools in the nation.

Wednesday, June 28

Dear Diary,

This has been such an exciting evening. Mary Elizabeth Kendall, president of the College Club Section, represented us as mistress of ceremonies at the general session. She did a bang-up job, and what a program! I can hardly write fast enough.

First, three home economists who had recently met with the Peace Corps officials in Washington, D.C., explained the place home economists have in the program. We have so much to offer — they must have had us in mind when they organized it. (Miss Julia Faltinson was on the panel — ISU is really on the map!)

Next, Dona Felisa, the Mayor and City Manager of San Juan, spoke on the position held by the women in her country and throughout South America. I could see clearly how the Peace Corps program could serve them. She is really an exciting person and a great humanitarian. This evening made the whole trip worthwhile. I wish everyone at school could have been here.

Earlier in the day we went to the Art Museum — one of the largest and most beautiful in the world. I saw several paintings from the Applied Art 384 textbook, as well as many others by the same artists.

We had a little time before the stores closed, so we invaded the department stores for "souvenirs." Lois bought a dress, shoes, and a turquoise duster; Jan found the perfect dress for her trip to Europe (no-iron); I only got a postcard!

Thursday, June 29

Dear Diary,

Even though my feet ache from our long hike to see the ninth inning of the Cleveland Indians' baseball game, the evening was a huge success. I can still hear the music of the Cleveland Summer Pops Orchestra as they played a special concert for the AHEA — Swan Lake, Strauss Waltzes, and even modern Latin American music. *But before that our own Dr. Eppright stepped to the platform to receive the Borden Award. This is presented to a person who has done extensive research in foods, and it is a tremendous honor. Dr. Eppright plans to use it for further research in the field of nutrition and experimental foods.*

This morning we went up in the Observation Tower to see where we'd been. We were told it is the second tallest building in the United States. It's second to the Empire State Building in New York.

After struggling to understand the Federal Reserve System in Economics 241, I wanted to see the Federal Reserve Bank in Cleveland. A guard took us on a special tour to see the vault with the thickest walls in the world; and they were, too, I'm sure!

Back at the convention the new College Club officers were installed. It was thrilling to think ahead to a new year with its many challenges. Inspired by the Convention and by the new leaders, I am eager to make plans for the year ahead.

Two ISU faculty members were installed as chairmen of AHEA sections — Miss Rosenfeld in Extension and Miss McKinley in Institution Management.

My shopping bags are really stuffed tonight. But they hold more than souvenirs of the Convention; they are full of pride for Iowa State and the resources she holds.

Friday, June 30

Dear Diary,

These shopping bags may be the end of me. I almost missed the train because of them! It's certainly hard to manage a suitcase, purse, coat and two bulging shopping bags.

The last session this morning contained some real food for thought. Dr. George Kienzle from Ohio State University stressed the importance of communications in our field: saying what you mean, and suiting your vocabulary to your public. Editors of professional magazines, such as *The Journal of Home Economics*, were advised to present research material so that it will be interesting to the readers of the publication. Mrs. Esther VanWagoner Tufty, a Washington correspondent, stressed the importance of reading the newspaper every day — not just once in a while. Each day is like a chapter in a serial.

Cleveland is a wonderful convention city — beautiful facilities, interesting side-trips, and friendly, accommodating people. They added the finishing touch to a tremendous convention.

Wow — the girl who goes to Miami, Florida, next year will really be lucky!